

Hello Members of Instruction Quality Commission.

I, Satish Lohchab, father of two elementary school kids, American Hindu resident of San Diego California. Irrespective of my extremely busy schedule, I drove overnight to express my views.

In 6th grade Oct 9th and Nov Framework draft has lines 859 to 861 have description on Untouchability. This gives nothing but negative impression about Hinduism. You also have humongous number of lines 859 to 874 describing India's Social Structure.

Every religion has social problems- even religious problems that have been at least equally or much more serious. Dhimmitude in Islam or Slavery in Christianity and colonization to just name a few. But none of such negative aspects come for other religions. It is to align with Californian law is the yardstick.

Now where do you loose the yardstick when it comes to Hinduism?

Instead of it, why do you prefer to use the controversial views of academies who have been hostile to Hinduism, to override the process you have followed to build the framework for other major religions?

Why does Hinduism have to be negatively portrayed while the process has humanized non Abrahamic cultures many many years back?

6th graders deserve a chance to learn Hinduism in fair light like other major religions and cultures. Bringing hair splitting academic arguments from Graduate school level academia into Hinduism and only Hinduism is clearly unfair and makes our point that Hinduism is being singled out.

Hindu kids have the same rights to feel pride in their heritage and be secure in their religion as the civilized kids, even if the hostile academics want to portray Hinduism is not civilized.

Lastly, Saying social structure was not based upon religion does not change the fact that it is still presented in the section of introduction to Hinduism. No other religion has their social problems presented in introduction to their culture.

With description of Untouchability and increase of number of words from around 87 to around 337 for India's social structure, goes against the commitment to keep the framework fairly sized but also against the rights every child has to feel proud and secure in their own culture.

Area Studies scholars can earn their bread and butter by continuing to create controversies, but not in classrooms. I am not willing to accept that Hindu children are subject to continued unfairness.

I request the entire committee to remove the lines 859 to 871 ("In addition,therelabel offensive") from your recent 6th grade framework draft. I also request to replace words that will be saved, with positive aspects on Hinduism.

Thank you.

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